

they seem too good, in their historic aspect, not to be given to the public. They are moral antiques which still form a very interesting study." * * * "These letters show how rapidly we have been making history since the last of them was written. To the youths of the present generation the society, of which they were a natural product, is as dead as the civilization of the Pharaohs." * * * "We have traveled far since then, and our faces have been set Zionward!"

Yes! he was attempting to make history! To plant the tap-root of that lie, of multitudinous roots, which had been potent enough in the past to make a revolution; to depose the sovereign Constitution of the old union, and to enthrone in its place the "higher law" so called; he was attempting to plant its tap-root in the future, and so to fix it there that the lie might stand, through all time, for the truth of American history.

Seward's "irrepressible conflict," then, is not yet ended. I remember to have been seated in the receiving-room of Williard's hotel, Washington City, very shortly after the close of the war, when Mr. Pierre Soule entered it. He had but recently returned from the City of Mexico, by invitation, as I had previously understood, from the Secretary of State, kindly expressed in a private note; and was now in Washington to give personal expression to his appreciation of the kindness. He had just left Mr. Seward when he entered the hotel. A noticeable figure indeed he was! His face wore the pallor of death. As we sat conversing together the very sofa beneath us shivered with the electricity which agitated the entire man. Painful indeed to him had been the interview; but of all Seward had said, the words which had rudely touched the most deep-seated and sensitive of all his nerves were: "The North will never consent to surrender the past!" Are the